With a strong record of job creation and fiscally conservative budgets that have helped put Mississippi on the path to record economic growth, Governor Haley Barbour today officially launched his campaign for reelection.

(POSSIBLE QUOTES)

"We have come a long way together," Governor Barbour said as he embarked on an announcement tour that will take him to nine cities in every geographic area of the state on Monday and Tuesday. "Marsha and I are deeply grateful for the opportunity to serve the citizens of our state. Mississippi is doing better but we still have a ways to go and I am asking voters to give me four more years as Governor."

On Monday, Governor Barbour plans to visit Gulfport, Hattiesburg, Jackson and Greenville; Tuesday's schedule includes stops in Olive Branch, Tupelo, Columbus, Meridian and Yazoo City.

Governor Barbour, elected in 2003 in the highest voter turnout in Mississippi history, has compiled a solid record of job creation, economic growth and balanced budgets – without raising taxes. Under his administration funding for such state priorities as education and law enforcement have increased, while spending on corrections and Medicaid have been brought under control.

"I am proud of the work that has been done in creating more and better jobs, ending lawsuit abuse, improving education, making Mississippi healthier, and building safer communities and stronger families. I am asking voters to join me for four more years of progress," Governor Barbour said.

Here is Governor Barbour's announcement tour schedule:

Monday, Feb. 12th

Gulfport

Trinity Yachts 13085 Seaway Road 9:00 AM

Hattiesburg

Lake Terrace Convention Center One Convention Center Plaza 11:15 AM

Jackson

Regency Hotel & Conference Center 400 Greymont Ave. 1:30 PM

Greenville

Mid-Delta Regional Airport 166 5th Ave 4:15 PM

Tuesday, Feb. 12th

Olive Branch

Whispering Woods Hotel & Conference Center 11200 East Goodman Road 9:45 AM

Tupelo

Hilton Garden Inn 363 East Main Street 11:45 AM

Columbus

Golden Triangle Regional Airport Observation Deck 2080 Airport Road 1:45 PM

Meridian

Meridian Regional Airport 2811 Highway 11 South Meridian 3:45 PM

Yazoo City

The Manchester (formally known as The Elk's Lodge) 118 East Broadway Yazoo City 6:00 PM